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GERMANY APOLOGIZES TO UNITED STATES

Berlin Admits Steamer Nebraskan Was Torpedoed.

WILL MAKE REPARATION.

Attack "Was Not Meant for American Flag, But is to be Considered an Unfortunate Accident."

Washington, July 15.—Germany, in an official memorandum transmitted today from Berlin by Ambassador Gerard, admits that the American steamer Nebraskan was torpedoed by a submarine; expresses regret and readiness to make reparation, and assures the United States that the attack "was not meant for the American flag, but is to be considered an unfortunate accident."

Secretary Lansing made public the German memorandum, which disposes of the hitherto undetermined question whether the Nebraskan was struck by a torpedo or by a mine.

The memorandum closes the incident, it was said, except for payment of damages.

Secretary Lansing's announcement follows:

"Ambassador Gerard has telegraphed to the department of state the following memorandum from the German foreign office relative to the damaging of the American steamer Nebraskan by a German submarine:

"The German government received from newspaper reports the intelligence that the American steamer Nebraskan had been damaged by a mine or torpedo on the southwest coast of Ireland. It therefore started a thorough investigation of the case without delay and from the result of the investigation it has become convinced that the damage to the Nebraskan was caused by an attack by a submarine.

"On the evening of May 25 last the submarine met a steamer bound westward without a flag and with no neutral markings on her freeboard, about 35 nautical miles west of Fastnet Rock; no appearance of any kind for the illumination of the flag or markings was to be seen. In the twilight, which had already set in, the name of the steamer was not visible from the submarine. Since the commander of the submarine was obliged to assume from his wide experience in the area of maritime war only English steamers and no neutral steamers traversed this war area without flag and markings, he attacked the vessel with a torpedo, in the conviction that he had an enemy vessel before him.

"Some time after the shot the commander saw that the vessel had in the meantime hoisted the American flag. As a consequence, he, of course, refrained from any further attack. Since the vessel remained afloat he had no occasion to concern himself further with the boats which had been launched.

"It results from this, without a doubt, that the attack on the steamer Nebraskan was not meant for the American flag, nor is it traceable to any fault on the part of the commander of the German submarine, but is to be considered an unfortunate accident. The German government expresses its regret at the occurrence to the government of the United States of America and declares its readiness to make compensation for the damage thereby sustained by American citizens."

The official report of the attack forwarded by Ambassador Page after investigation by Lieutenant John H. Towers, naval attaché of the embassy, said the Nebraskan was in water ballast, outbound from Liverpool for Delaware Breakwater and that although her flag had been hauled down just after sunset, as is the custom, there were painted on her sides in letters six feet high the words, "Nebraskan, New York."

Train Wrecked by Bomb.

Washington, July 15.—A train between Vera Cruz and Mexico City has been wrecked by a bomb near Apizaco. The explosion killed and wounded many persons. A cablegram from Vera Cruz to the state department says it is uncertain whether the train left Vera Cruz July 12 or 13. The railroad has discontinued selling tickets to Mexico City.

HOT IN ALASKA.

Ninety Degrees in the Shade at Juneau—Bumper Crops Expected. Juneau, Alaska, July 14.—Temperatures over southeastern Alaska during the last 10 days have reached a maximum hitherto unknown to the oldest inhabitants. The weather bureau thermometer has registered as high as 90 degrees in the shade, 100 degrees mark has been reached by street thermometers.

Forest fires are raging along Lynn canal and the glaciers have been discharging ice at an extraordinary rate.

At this time of the year the sun shines 20 of the 24 hours each day and the absence of the usual southwest winds is attributed to excessive heat.

Fruits and vegetables give indications of bumper crops.

VILLA'S ARMY IS RETREATING

Reports Say That His Next Stand Will Probably be Made at Torreon.

El Paso, Texas, July 14.—Gen. Francisco Villa has evacuated Zacatecas and Aguas Calientes and his next stand against the advancing Carranza forces probably will be made at Torreon, said a message received from Villa headquarters at the front tonight.

Villa's retreat was in good order and his evacuation cost him but two trains, one of wounded and the other of supplies, said the message. Severe rear guard action, however, marked the retreat.

At Torreon it will be possible for Villa to concentrate a greater force than he had at Aguas Calientes. Between Torreon and Monterrey at least three Villa detachments are operating. Concentration of these forces may be interfered with, however, by a counter movement directed from Monterrey. One such movement is said to have been started by the Carranza troops westward from Monclova through Cuatro Ciénegas. Unless checked this column could reach a point on the railroad north of Villa, cutting his line of communication with Juarez, his chief northern port of entry.

AN EXPENSIVE MUSEUM.

Chicago Starts Erection of Building to Cost \$5,000,000.

Chicago, July 15.—Construction of the new \$5,000,000 Field Museum of Natural History which is to be built on Chicago's lake front just south of Twelfth street, began today after 12 years of planning and negotiation. It is planned to complete the structure in less than three years. More than 3,000 men will be employed. When finished it will be the largest marble building in the world and one of the largest museums. It will consist of three stories and a basement and will cover an area of 700 by 350 feet, or approximately four downtown city blocks.

The floor area of the museum will be 670,000 square feet, of which 400,000 square feet will be devoted to exhibition purposes. The remainder will be used for scientific laboratories, lecture halls, offices and a restaurant. The late Marshall Field gave a total of \$9,500,000 for the building and endowment fund of the museum.

AIRCRAFT IN MAKING.

British Have Built Sixteen Aerial Ships.

London, July 14.—The annual accounts of the British dock yards expenditures for the last year reveal for the first time to the public that a ship "No. 16" was in the course of construction in 1914. It has been the impression that at that time Great Britain had confined its aircraft activities almost exclusively to aeroplanes, and the fact that 16 ships had been built was known only to the initiated.

The same accounts give the total cost of the combatant ships in the British navy in commission at the end of the last fiscal year at upwards of \$870,000,000.

Much Sugar Destroyed.

Hollo, Panay, P. I., July 15.—More than 3,300 tons of sugar were burned in a fire which destroyed a large number of buildings here last night. The sugar, valued at \$150,000, represented three-fourths of the loss.

NOTE MAY BE READY END OF NEXT WEEK

Wilson May Bring Draft of Reply to Berlin From Cornish.

CABINET MEETS TUESDAY.

Bernstorff to Call on Lansing and Explain the Viewpoint of His Government.

Washington, July 14.—Officials were at work today setting down views on the German situation in definite form for presentation to President Wilson on his return.

The general belief is that the President will be here for a regular cabinet meeting Tuesday and that he may bring with him from Cornish, N. H., a rough draft of a note to be sent to Germany. He will exchange views first with Secretary Lansing, who, it is believed, also has mapped out a draft of a note. Decision on the policy to be followed probably will be reached at the cabinet meeting and the new note may be completed by the end of next week.

Before the President returns Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, will call on Secretary Lansing, to explain the viewpoint of his government.

The ambassador recommended to the foreign office the inclusion in the last note of those paragraphs expressing the hope that the United States and Germany would work together for the adoption of the principle of the freedom of the seas. He places much confidence on the expressed willingness of Germany to follow the lead of the United States in this way, and thinks the way is open for the United States to mediate the controversy on the rules of maritime warfare as they effect neutral rights.

Working on Note.

Cornish, N. H., July 14.—President Wilson spent most of the day working on the American reply to the German note. He wrote a long letter to Secretary Lansing, and received one from the secretary. It was said the communication had to do with the German situation, but nothing was given out.

That the President's plans were taking shape was understood here, but it was indicated he still was withholding final judgment until he had discussed the subject with his cabinet.

The President today received many telegrams and letters bearing on the situation. Editorials from newspapers also came to his attention.

THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

A Very Heavy Royalty Put Upon the Drug.

Washington, July 14.—A compromise in the Chinese opposition to the opium traffic under which 6,000 chests of opium, the total stock now in Hong Kong and Shanghai, may be imported into the province of Kiangsu, Kwang Tung and Kiang Si, as medicine bearing special labels, is told in unofficial dispatches reaching the state department by mail today.

The 6,000 chests may be imported on payment of royalty of \$20,000,000 to the Chinese government for the whole quantity, in lieu of permitting foreign merchants to import into China 12,000 chests of opium this year and 5,000 chests next year, as provided by the British treaty.

This arrangement is understood by officials here to be probably the result of an understanding with the British authorities with a view to relieving the merchants in the treaty port of Shanghai and the British port of Hong Kong, of the burden of keeping this immense stock of opium, whose production and sale for commercial purposes is prohibited in China.

Bids for New Submarines to be Opened in September.

Washington, July 15.—Bids for 16 new submarines authorized by the last Congress will not be opened until September 29, Secretary Daniels announced today, in order that two shipbuilding companies which have obtained patent rights to build boats of a successful type now used by two or more of the European belligerents may have a chance to compete.

SOUTH WALES MINERS EXPECTED TO STRIKE

Despite Munitions Act the Men Will Quit Work.

NO CHANGE IN THE EAST.

Reports That Turkey is Seeking Separate Peace Not Confirmed. Conflicting Reports.

London, July 14.—Despite the action of the government in applying the munitions of war act to the coal-mining industry, which will make the miners subject to severe fines if they strike, it is practically certain that a large number of men will stop work in South Wales tomorrow, thus curtailing the supply of coal for the naval vessels.

The Federations of Miners of the United Kingdom, the labor leaders and the general public, upon whose support the miners would depend to make the strike a success, are all urging them to continue work until an agreement can be reached, but the executive council of the South Wales Union, by a majority vote, refused to support this recommendation and a large proportion of the men are preparing to lay down their tools.

It is not believed, however, that the strike will last long as the men themselves are divided and the South Wales Union has not the funds to finance a long struggle; the miners' federation of the United Kingdom, after its recommendation, is not likely to assist them from its exchequer. There is also a possibility that the government will utilize the miners who enlisted in the army and who have not yet left the country to work the mines.

This dispute which jeopardizes the work of the navy, occupies the public mind in England above all other matters and the official reports of the fighting in the East and West take second place. In fact, except for a sharp conflict in the Argonne, where the German official communication claims an attack by the Crown Prince's army was "crowned with complete success," but which the French report says was repulsed, there has been little doing beyond the usual artillery actions and the bombardment of points of concentration.

This is the second success claimed for the Crown Prince in the Argonne during the last few weeks, but, as in the previous case, there is a complete conflict of testimony between the two headquarters. The Germans state that they took nearly 3,000 prisoners, while the French, although admitting that their line momentarily gave way, declare that their counter-attacks arrested the progress of the Germans and drove them back.

There is no change reported on either the Eastern or Italian fronts, while reports that Turkey is seeking a separate peace, that some change in the Balkan situation is imminent and that the allies have made further progress on the Gallipoli peninsula, still lack official confirmation.

THOUSANDS DROWNED.

Widespread Famine in Canton District Involving Millions.

Hong Kong, July 15.—Tens of thousands of natives, it is estimated, have been drowned by the floods in the Chinese provinces of Kwantung, Kwangsi and Kiangsi, and the desolation in the devastated districts is terrible, according to the latest reports reaching here.

A fire-swept area of one mile and raging floods are handicapping rescue work in Canton.

The city was in darkness last night, the water having inundated the electric light plant.

Missionaries have arrived here seeking the assistance of the United States gunboat Callao to aid in the work of rescue.

Last reports from Canton before communication was cut say the Christian hospital is in danger.

Brig. Gen. Dougherty Dies at Oakland, Cal.

Oakland, Cal., July 14.—Brig. Gen. William E. Dougherty, U. S. A., retired, is dead here, aged 74. He was a native of Ireland. He served through the Civil War and entered the regular service in 1865.

FRENCH HOLIDAY.

Quietly But Impressively Celebrated in Paris.

Paris, July 14.—France today celebrated her national holiday quietly but impressively. There was less of a parade and less frolic than since the origin of the third republic. There was no open-air dancing, no fireworks and no rejoicing of any kind.

It was a poor day for the wine shops but a great day for patriots. The faded tri-color flags flying since the outbreak of the war were replaced by fresh banners. Everywhere it was distinctly a day of the national battle hymn the "Marseillaise" and a day in Paris for thousands of patriots who honored Captin Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle, composer of the hymn whose body was brought from Choisy-le-Roi and placed in the Hotel des Invalides or decorated the monuments in the Place de La Concorde.

MEAT PACKERS ASK GOVERNMENT'S AID

Want Uncle Sam to Demand That Great Britain Stop Interfering With Trade.

Washington, July 14.—American meat packers appealed to the state department today to demand that Great Britain stop interfering with cargoes consigned to neutral ports and settle for \$14,000,000 worth of their products now held in the prize court. They charge the British government with destruction of commerce in food products between the United States and other neutral nations.

After the conference between the packers and Chandler Anderson, special counsellor of the state department, it was announced that the department would make representations to Great Britain. The packers will discuss the difficulties further with Mr. Anderson tomorrow.

In a statement tonight outlining their case as laid before the department, they declare that the British government purposely delays settlement of their claim for seized cargoes and that they are not inclined to reopen trade with neutral countries unless they can be assured of delivery of their shipments to ports designated.

SUFFRAGE LEADER REBELS.

Dr. Anna Howard Shaw Refuses to Make Return for Taxes.

New York, July 14.—Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, president of the American National Woman Suffrage Association, probably will not attempt to save her little yellow automobile from sale at auction at Media, Pa., next Tuesday to satisfy a tax assessment, according to a statement she issued here today. The car, named "Eastern Victory," was presented to Dr. Shaw by a group of her followers. It was seized at Moylan, Pennsylvania, Dr. Shaw's residence, Monday and is to be sold at auction to pay a tax assessment of \$120 levied upon Dr. Shaw in 1913.

The suffrage leader declined to make out a list of her property subject to taxes on the ground that to tax her without "giving her the right to vote" would be "heaping injury upon tyranny."

"In the spirit of 1776," her statement reads, "she declined to be a party to any act which violated the national constitution."

DURANT SUCCEEDS APPELL.

Wins Over Two Opponents in Race for Senate.

Manning Special to Charleston News and Courier, July 13.—At the special primary election held in Clarendon county today to choose a candidate for the state senate to succeed the late Senator Louis Appelt, after a spirited campaign, the result shows the choice of Charlton DuRant over two competitors. All the boxes in the county, except three small ones that cannot change the result, give the following total votes: John R. Dingle 259, Charlton DuRant 811, J. W. Wideman 310, giving DuRant a clear majority of 242.

Justice Delaney Dead.

New York, July 14.—Justice John L. Delaney of the New York supreme court, died at his home here tonight. He was 65 years old. While a member of Tammany Hall he gained distinction as an orator.

HARRY THAW SANE IS JURY'S VERDICT

Judge to Say Today Whether He Will be Free from Asylum.

THAW CHEERED BY CROWD

Member of Jury Says Members Believe Thaw Eccentric, Possibly Mentally Weak.

New York, July 14.—Harry Kendall Thaw was declared sane by a jury which for nearly three weeks had listened to testimony given in the supreme court here before Justice Peter Hendrick. Forty-eight minutes were consumed and two ballots were taken in reaching a verdict.

Justice Hendrick on Friday morning will announce whether the commitment upon which Thaw was incarcerated in the State Hospital for the Criminal Insane at Matteawan shall be vacated, thereby giving to the slayer of Stanford White the liberty for which he has fought in the courts for nine years.

It was at the end of a day of addresses by counsel and the charge of Justice Hendrick that the jury retired. While the twelve men were deliberating the crowd in the court room and about the court house was augmented by scores of people, who believed that a verdict quickly would be found. Shortly before 4 o'clock a bailiff came from the jury room and informed Justice Hendrick that a verdict had been reached. The doors immediately were locked and Justice Hendrick, ascending the bench, warned the spectators against any demonstration. Then the jury came in. In reply to a question by the clerk of court as to whether a verdict had been reached the foreman handed over a sheet of legal paper, which was passed to the Justice. Justice Hendrick read it and handed it back to the clerk.

VERDICT ANNOUNCED.

"Gentlemen of the jury," said the clerk, "the question you have been asked is this: 'Is Harry K. Thaw sane? Your answer is yes.'"

Despite the warning several persons stood up in front of their seats. The court room hummed like a dynamo. Justice Hendrick and a dozen court attendants rapped for order.

Meanwhile Thaw, who until the verdict was announced, sat at the counsel table with his chin resting in a handkerchief had turned around and grasped the hand of several of his counsel. Then he went to where his mother was sitting, a few feet away, and throwing his arms about her neck, kissed her twice. Mrs. Thaw at the same time patted her daughter, Mrs. George L. Carnegie, on the shoulder.

Weather of Week Favored Cotton.

Washington, July 14.—Cotton had a generally favorable week, the national weather and crop bulletin today announced.

"Over the central and eastern portions of the cotton belt," said the bulletin, "moderately warm weather, with local showers favored a generally satisfactory growth, although the plant is reported as still small in some northern localities, due to cool weather, and the fields as grassy in others. In Texas and Oklahoma much clear weather, with warm sunshine favored cultivation and rapid growth over the greater part of those states, but in Southern Texas the absence of general rains for several weeks has retarded growth. Boll weevils continue active in many portions of Texas, as well as in Mississippi and Alabama. The first bale of cotton was marketed in Texas July 9."

Baptists Close Splendid Meeting.

Asheville, N. C., July 14.—What the delegates regard as the best ten-day meeting in the history of the Baptist mission conference ended at Ridge Crest, near here, today, and tonight the delegates were leaving for home. The final session of the conference was featured by the address of Dr. J. M. Justice, president of the theological training school at Buenos Aires. The morning session was devoted to a lecture by Miss Blanco Barrus of Raleigh, corresponding secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina.